Grimsargh St Michael's Newsletter 06.05.2022

'Let your light shine before people so that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven' (Matthew 5: v.16)

Congratulations to our **STARS** who have let their **lights shine** this week.

Reception (Miss Lemmings): **Theo B and Nes C**
Year 1 (Miss Threlfall): **Ollie B and Shaun C**
Year 2 (Mrs Coupe): **Thomas G and Olivia H**
Year 3 (Mrs Todd/ Mrs Slattery): **Elliott B and Amelia T**
Year 4 (Mr Brooks): **Harry J and Erin W**
Year 5 (Mrs Loughran): **Mia T and Katie P**
Year 6 (Miss Cross): **George B and Joe R**

HOUSE POINTS

Finney (yellow): **214**
Shakespeare (blue): **413**
Seacole (red): **369**
Pankhurst (white): **471**

SOCIAL MEDIA

'**grimsarghstmichaels**' on Instagram

'**Grimsargh St Michael's C of E Primary School**' on Facebook.

Weekly Attendance

(Week beginning 18th April)

WHOLE SCHOOL: 96.9%
Reception: 98.7%
Year 1: 97.3%
Year 2: 100%
Year 3: 96.7%
Year 4: 92.7%
Year 5: 94%
Year 6: 98.7%

PARENT VIEW

Thank you to those of you who completed Parent View. We appreciate you taking time out of your schedules to provide feedback.

As a staff team we will reflect on your responses and endeavour to use the results to support school improvement.

I will write to you in the coming weeks with a summary of the results.

DIARY DATES

SATS WEEK– Year 6

9th May
Whole School Worship

10th May
3pm Whole School singing practice
Year 4 visit St Michael's Church

11th May
3pm KS2 worship
Year 3/4 Striking & Fielding competition

12th May
3pm KS1 worship

13th May
NATIONAL NUMERACY DAY
2:45pm Whole School Celebration Worship
Year 1 visit St Michael's Church

Our Christian Value for this half term is **Truthfulness**

Living without Lies

This week, we focused on the story of Jacob and Esau during worship.
Isaac and Rebekah had twins named Esau and Jacob. Isaac was close to Esau, but Rebekah was closer to Jacob. Esau was the oldest and was supposed to inherit all the birth rights from his father.

'The boys grew up. Esau became a skilful hunter. He was a man who liked the open country. But Jacob was a quiet man. He stayed at home among the tents'. Genesis 25:27

One day, Jacob was cooking a meal when Esau came home, hungry, from a long day of hunting. Jacob told his brother he'd give him food, on the condition that Esau give Jacob the rights of the firstborn (which meant Esau was due to get a larger plot of land than Isaac). Esau must have been really hungry, because he agreed.
Even though Esau gave up his larger plot of land, he was still due to receive his father's blessing as the firstborn, which meant he would get a larger inheritance.

Later on in life, Isaac was old and could hardly see. Esau was a hairy guy, so Jacob put on some animal fur and tricked his dad into giving him the blessing meant for his brother. Rebekah gave him the idea since she loved Jacob more than Esau.

Jacob tricked both his older brother and his father and essentially became the firstborn son- by deception. Jacob fled to live with his Uncle Laban out of fear of Esau. He met Rachel and Leah (his future wives) there. God later called him to return to his homeland.

On the way back to meet Esau and ask for forgiveness, he had a dream, in which he struggled with God. During the dream, God changed his name to Israel.

His twelve sons became the twelve tribes of Israel.

What is the result of the lies that were told in the story?
What do you think about the way each of the main characters in the story behaved?

Have you ever been tempted to tell a lie to get something you want?
How did it make you feel inside?

Honesty prayer

God of truth,
We thank you for the peace we feel when we are truthful,
And the way you trouble us inside when we tell lies.
Give us your courage to be honest, whatever the cost.
Amen

Baby Beat donation

It was lovely for Mrs Todd, Mr Booth and Florence B-R and Ellis T, on behalf of all our year 3 and 4 children, to present a cheque for £232 to our chosen charity, 'Baby Beat' this week. This money was raised through your generosity during the year 3/ 4 end of term production of 'Plastic Pirates'– thank you.

PTFA

Penny Challenge - 16-27 May

It's that time of year when classes are pitched against each other in the annual Penny Challenge.

Taking place between 16 and 27 May, classes will each be given an empty jar with the aim of filling it with as many 2 and 1ps as they can muster.

The class with the most pennies at the end will win an extra playtime, as well as a scrummy chocolate bar for each pupil in the class.

This is a fun way for the children to get involved in helping to raise money for the school, which we can then put towards new equipment or some exciting activities for them to enjoy - so start digging out those coppers!

YEAR 6

I would like to take this opportunity to wish our year 6 children a happy and relaxing weekend ahead of what is an extremely important week for them next week as they will be sitting their SATs.

During school time, Miss Cross and Mrs Rutherford have prepared our year 6 children for what is to come next week and I am sure you, as parents/ carers, have provided guidance and support at home.

Our main message has been for our children to work hard and try their best and then what will be, will be.

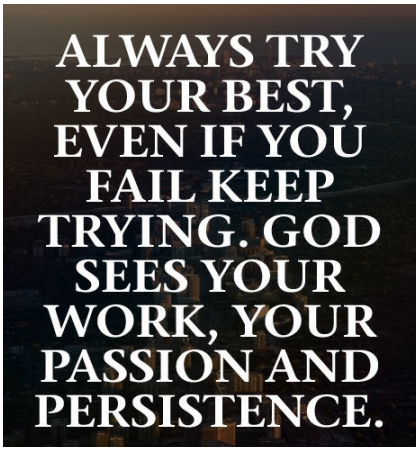
As a school, we focus on trying to develop a growth mindset in our children with the three qualities we focus on most being perseverance, resilience and belief. It is these qualities our children will need to draw upon next week.

We feel that the best preparation for our children this weekend is to:

- **Have fun!**
- **Get plenty fresh air**
- **Drink plenty water**
- **Eat healthy food and especially breakfasts before they arrive at school next week**
- **Have plenty of sleep– enjoy some early nights!**

We believe this will help them to come to school on Monday feeling fresh and positive for the week ahead.

Miss Cross will be purchasing some breakfast bars for any children who feel they would like an additional snack during registration and I have told the children that we are at their 'beck and call' regarding any of their needs...until Thursday lunchtime that is!



ROMAN DAY– Year 3

On Tuesday morning our year 3 children and staff, along with some parent helpers, came to school dressed as Romans in preparation for our Roman Day! During the morning the children completed activities in the hall - Roman Mosaics, Roman Coins, Wax Tablet Making, Practising Roman Numerals, Roman Aqueduct Building and Visiting the Roman Baths. Thank you to all the adults that gave up their time to help.

In the afternoon, the children learnt about Julius Caesar and practised marching around the playground. They finished their day with a Roman Banquet - some of us did not enjoy the olives! Mrs Todd.

SPORTS NEWS

FOOTBALL

On Wednesday afternoon, our year 3/4 girls performed admirably in their first football tournament winning 2 games and losing 3. They showed real determination and team spirit- improving every game along the way. They also scored an amazing 12 goals!

Well done to **Tia T, Harmony B, Freya W, Annie-Rose N, Milly H, Florence B-R, Amber R and Erin W**.

We also had great support from parents, so thank you to those who came to watch.

CRICKET

On a sunny Thursday evening (true cricket weather) the cricket team were narrowly defeated by 1 run v St Joseph's and by 7 runs v Broughton. A competitive spirit was evident, and the team did so well to remain positive despite the narrow margin of defeat in games that could have gone either way. Some great bowling, fielding and batting was on display.

Well done to **George G, George B, Oscar S, Zach A, William E, George R, Alex J and Noah L.**

Again, we had plenty of encouragement from watching parents, so thank you to all who assisted with lifts and/or came down to watch.

EID

It was lovely to speak with some of our pupils who celebrated Eid on Monday. They told me all about their celebrations and shared their Mehndi designs (Henna), explaining that Mrs Aslam (mum to Amelia, Areeb and Hooriya and auntie to Eshaal and Aamal) was the artist behind them. We hope all our families who celebrated Eid enjoyed a lovely time with family and friends.

MATHLETICS

Scores for 25th April - 1st May

1st place: year 5 – 17, 895 pts

2nd place: year 3 - 15, 895

3rd place: year 1 - 11, 390

4th place: reception - 10, 690

5th place: year 6 - 5,928

6th place: year 2 - 5, 322

7th place: year 4 - 3,860

Top Student - Jake Mc G (year 1)

SAFEGUARDING

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility

I am in the process of looking into purchasing a full subscription to a Safeguarding support platform called, '**National Online Safety**'.

This is a very comprehensive platform and includes regularly updated training for the whole school community including school leaders, staff, parents and governors, in line with DfE statutory requirements and the Ofsted framework.

Importantly it also includes support and monthly updates which in an area such as online safety is substantial.

As parents/ carers, you would have access to or would be sent, if you signed up to receive notifications, a weekly Social Media platform guide– please see the 'WhatsApp' guide as an example of what these would look like.

I will write to you when we have purchased the subscription and will include information around the support for you, as parents/ carers, regarding Safeguarding.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about WHATSAPP

UK AND EUROPE 16+ | 13+ REST OF THE WORLD

WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service, with around two billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls. Its end-to-end encryption means messages can only be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp can read them. Updates to its privacy policy in 2021 (involving sharing data with parent company Facebook) caused millions to leave the app, but the new policy was widely misinterpreted – it only related to WhatsApp's business features, not to personal messages.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SCAMS

Fraudsters occasionally send WhatsApp messages pretending to offer prizes – encouraging the user to click on a link to win. Other common scams involve warning someone that their WhatsApp subscription has run out (aiming to dupe them into disclosing payment details) or impersonating a friend or relative and asking for money to be transferred to help with an emergency.

DISAPPEARING MESSAGES

Users can set WhatsApp messages to disappear in 24 hours, 7 days or 90 days by default. Photos and videos can also be instructed to disappear after the recipient has viewed them. These files can't be saved or forwarded – so if your child was sent an inappropriate message, it would be difficult to prove any wrongdoing. However, the receiver *can* take a screenshot and save that as evidence.

ENABLING FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp has unfortunately been linked to accelerating the spread of dangerous rumours. In India in 2018, some outbreaks of mob violence appear to have been sparked by false allegations being shared on the app. WhatsApp itself took steps to prevent its users circulating hazardous theories and speculation in the early weeks of the Covid-19 pandemic.

POTENTIAL CYBERBULLYING

Group chat and video calls are great for connecting with multiple people in WhatsApp, but there is always the potential for someone's feelings to be hurt by an unkind comment or joke. The 'only admins' feature gives the admin(s) of a group control over who can send messages. They can, for example, block people from posting in a chat, which could make a child feel excluded and upset.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a WhatsApp chat, you only need the mobile number of the person you want to message (the other person also needs to have the app). WhatsApp can access the address book on someone's device and recognise which of their contacts also use the app. So if your child has ever given their phone number to someone they don't know, that person could use it to contact them via WhatsApp.

LOCATION SHARING

The 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, allowing friends to see their movements. WhatsApp describes it as a "simple and secure way to let people know where you are." It *is* a useful method for a young person to let loved ones know they're safe – but if they used it in a chat with people they *don't* know, they would be exposing their location to *them*, too.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CREATE A SAFE PROFILE

Even though someone would need a child's phone number to add them as a contact, it's also worth altering a young person's profile settings to restrict who can see their photo and status. The options are 'everyone', 'my contacts' and 'nobody' – choosing one of the latter two ensures that your child's profile is better protected.

EXPLAIN ABOUT BLOCKING

If your child receives spam or offensive messages, calls or files from a contact, they should block them using 'settings' in the chat. Communication from a blocked contact won't show up on their device and stays undelivered. Blocking someone does not remove them from your child's contact list – so they also need to be deleted from the address book.

REPORT POTENTIAL SCAMS

Young people shouldn't engage with any message that looks suspicious or too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they'll be given the option to report it as spam. If the sender claims to be a friend or relative, call that person on their usual number to verify it really is them, or if it's someone trying to trick your child.

LEAVE A GROUP

If your child is in a group chat that is making them feel uncomfortable, or has been added to a group that they don't want to be part of, they can use WhatsApp's group settings to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once; if they leave a second time, it is permanent.

THINK ABOUT LOCATION

If your child needs to use the 'live location' function to show you or one of their friends where they are, advise them to share their location only for as long as they need to. WhatsApp gives a range of 'live location' options, and your child should manually stop sharing their position as soon as it is no longer needed.

DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES

If your child posts a message they want to delete, WhatsApp allows the user seven minutes to erase a message. Tap and hold on the message, choose 'delete' and then 'delete for everyone.' However, it's important to remember that recipients may have seen (and taken a screenshot of) a message before it was deleted.

CHECK THE FACTS

You can now fact-check WhatsApp messages that have been forwarded at least five times, by double-tapping the magnifying glass icon to the right of the message. From there, your child can launch a Google search and decide for themselves whether the message was true or not.

Meet Our Expert

Parven Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.

National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com | @natonlinesafety | /NationalOnlineSafety | @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 02.03.2022